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Addendum

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Programme questions: proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (item 3 (b))

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

1. At the 10th and 11th meetings, on 14 June 2000, and the 30th meeting, on 29 August 2000, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6 (Prog. 7)).

2. The Under-Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the activities of the programme, encompassing key aspects of the Organization's work in the economic and social fields. Appreciation was expressed regarding the clarity and concision with which all eight subprogrammes of the programme's narrative were presented. Satisfaction was expressed about the focus in the overall orientation of the programme on the special needs of Africa, the least developed countries and the promotion of South-South cooperation. Special circumstances and needs of transit developing countries should also be included in the orientation of the programme.

4. It was observed that the reference to more active interaction between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should have been expanded and that there should be a closer link between the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the work of the General Assembly. It was also pointed out

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that the issue of support to non-governmental organizations and of interactions between the Council and non-governmental organizations should have been included among the objectives of the subprogramme.

5. It was stated that the concept of economic growth should be an integral part of the subprogramme on sustainable development. Reference to development targets should have been made. It was emphasized that South-South cooperation should be an important dimension of operational activities executed under the subprogramme.

6. It was stated that closer collaboration with other international organizations would continue in order to improve economic, social, demographic, environment, trade and other related statistics and to promote the systems in particular, including through training and other forms of technical cooperation.

7. An increase in the number of requests by users, including the Member States, for the Division's statistical data was emphasized.

8. It was observed that globalization should have been presented in a more balanced manner.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. **The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, subject to the following modifications:**

Paragraph 7.1

In the third sentence, replace the words "eradicating poverty and to" with the words "promoting sustainable development, in particular to eradicate poverty and to address"; and after the words "the landlocked countries", insert the words "transit developing countries".

Paragraph 7.2

At the end of the paragraph, add a reference to the 10-year review of the World Conference on Education for All, to be held in Dakar in 2000.

Paragraph 7.7

In subparagraph (d), replace the words "the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and civil society" with the words "the United Nations, financial and trade institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders of civil society".

At the end of subparagraph (e), insert the words "by, *inter alia*, linking the outcomes of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council to the deliberations in the framework of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 7.8

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraph:

"(e) More effective interactions between the Council and trade as well as financial institutions".

Paragraph 7.9

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) Usefulness of results of the interactive debates and panel discussions and dissemination of these deliberations, including through the Internet;"

Paragraph 7.10

In the second sentence, replace the words "seek to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women" with the words "ensure support to assist the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to increase its effectiveness and efficiency".

In the third sentence, replace the words "The mainstreaming of a gender perspective in every sector" with the following sentence: "An important objective of the subprogramme is to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective at all levels"; and begin the next sentence by inserting the word "The" before the word "improvement".

Paragraph 7.12

In the second sentence, before the words "increasing the effectiveness of", insert the words "*inter alia*".

Paragraph 7.13

At the end of subparagraph (d), add the words "without prejudice to the provisions of Article 101 of the Charter".

In subparagraph (f), after the words "Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women", insert the words "and its Optional Protocol".

After subparagraph (f), add the following subparagraph:

"(g) An increased capacity of the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women as indicated in article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women."

Paragraph 7.14

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the words "the number of reports examined by the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women".

At the beginning of subparagraph (c), insert the words "Usefulness of".

At the end of subparagraph (f), insert the words "including the enhancement of the capabilities of the regional commissions to work as focal points for inter-agency coordination on gender issues within the United Nations system".

Paragraph 7.16

In subparagraph (a), after the words "activities related to", add the words "the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and".

In subparagraph (b), replace the words "as modified by further action and initiatives" with the words "and promoting also, in this context, additional measures and initiatives".

Replace subparagraphs (e) and (f), with the following subparagraph:

"(e) Providing assistance to Governments and the global community to further the implementation of major intergovernmental policy documents on ageing, disabilities and youth, including the International Plan of Action on Ageing and its revision and updates, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the World Programme of Action for the Youth to the year 2000 and beyond; facilitating access to information in these areas through, *inter alia*, the development of an Internet-accessible database on relevant policies and implementation thereof."

Paragraph 7.17

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) More effective implementation of the commitments and policies contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development as well as the outcome of the General Assembly at its special session to be held in June 2000;"

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) The provision of effective assistance to Member States in achieving the goal of eradicating poverty through decisive national action and international cooperation, particularly in the context of the objectives of the Social Summit;"

In subparagraph (e), replace the word "international" with the word "intergovernmental".

Paragraph 7.18

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the words "and its review outcome".

At the beginning of subparagraph (d), insert the words "The impact of".

Paragraph 7.19

The paragraph should read:

"The subprogramme will seek to ensure the effective and coordinated implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable

Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, and the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on the recommendations of bodies responsible for energy and natural resources."

Paragraph 7.20

The paragraph should read:

"The Division for Sustainable Development is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting effective and coordinated implementation of the sustainable development agenda of the United Nations;

(b) Providing substantive support and bringing new issues within the context of Agenda 21 to the attention of the Commission on Sustainable Development for its consideration, including assessment of critical areas of sustainability;

(c) Following up on the decisions taken regarding the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, with due attention paid to matters related to the provision of adequate and predictable new and additional financial resources to developing countries and support to the efforts of the countries with economies in transition; to changing production and consumption patterns and mechanisms for the transfer of technology to those countries, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed in Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21; to addressing poverty in the context of sustainable development; and to ensuring the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 53/7, in which it endorsed the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, and 54/215, in which it called for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, as a part of the overall new and renewable sources of energy agenda, is fully integrated and brought into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development;

(d) Providing advisory services to Governments, at their request, in preparing national sustainable development strategies and related actions;

(e) Devising operational strategies to promote sustainable use of natural resources and energy, strengthening institutional, human resources and policy-making capacity in the area of natural resources, in particular water resources, and helping to develop and commercialize new and renewable sources of energy, as well as strengthening national institutions for the assessment and management of energy resources and related requests;

(f) Promoting and supporting North-South international cooperation in the area of sustainable development."

Paragraph 7.21

After the words "major groups" insert the words "as defined in Agenda 21"; and after the word "including", insert the words "women, youth, indigenous people".

Paragraph 7.22

Subparagraph (b) should read:

"(b) Increase in the number of collaborative arrangements and consultative processes involving the United Nations system;"

Subparagraph (d) should read:

"(d) An increase in technical cooperation activities in support of elaboration and formulation with a view to implementation of national strategies for sustainable development in accordance with the goal outlined in paragraph 24 (a) of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;"

At the beginning of subparagraph (e), insert the words "Usefulness of".

Paragraph 7.24

In subparagraph (a), after the words "related data" insert the words "and metadata".

Paragraph 7.26

In subparagraph (e), after the words "routinely produce", insert the words "and analyse".

Paragraph 7.30

In subparagraph (b), after the words "trends and policies", insert the words "for development".

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Enhanced ability of Member States (i) to formulate national population and related policies, (ii) to improve their national institutional capabilities for the collection and analysis of national population information, and (iii) to enable application of this information for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly."

Paragraph 7.33

Subparagraph (a) should read:

"(a) Supporting the efforts of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and economies in transition to mobilize

financial resources for development by advancing the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development to be held in 2001;"

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "advancing some of the outcomes of" with the words "advancing the outcomes of".

In subparagraph (b), the first clause should read:

"(b) Addressing, through research and analysis, issues pertaining to domestic resource mobilization, augmentation of official development assistance and increase in international private capital flows;"

Subparagraph (c) should read:

"(c) Providing the analysis of necessary actions to promote international financial stability to improve early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises in a timely manner, and to reform the international financial system, while also remaining responsive to the challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups, including the evaluation of the role of the international financial institutions;"

After subparagraph (d), add the following subparagraph:

"(e) Foster closer collaboration and understanding among the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions."

Paragraph 7.34

The paragraph should read:

"Noteworthy among expected accomplishments would be a constructive dialogue on macroeconomic policy issues in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through systematic surveys of the global economy and substantive support to the policy processes, such as those relating to the high-level intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries."

Paragraph 7.35

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

Paragraph 7.36

After the first sentence, insert the following sentence:

"Particular attention should be given to: (a) the strengthening of countries' policy development, institutional and managerial capacity to deal with globalization, and (b) the respective roles of the state and the market in the development process".

Paragraph 7.37

In subparagraph (c), replace the word "Governments" with the words "and in close consultation with Member States".

In subparagraph (d), after the word "challenges", add the words "and exploit the benefits".

Subparagraph (e) should read:

"(e) Development of analytical tools and options using adequate methodologies for impact assessment to respond to requests from Governments and international bodies for information, methodologies and assessments regarding the linkages between political and economic issues and policies, such as economic sanctions, imposition of coercive economic measures, the relationship between disarmament and development, and relevant aspects of post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction;"

After subparagraph (e), add the following subparagraph:

"(f) Interfacing and cooperating with organizations within the United Nations system in this field."

Paragraph 7.38

The paragraph should read:

"Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved intergovernmental dialogue and facilitation of consensus-building and decision-making regarding the emerging consequences of globalization for the state;

(b) Broadened common understanding of and approaches to public management and changing Governments' capacities;

(c) Strengthened institutional and human resources of government capacities;

(d) Broader and deeper understanding of major effects of public administration and public finance on civil society;

(e) Improved interface and coordination between the intergovernmental and regional policy deliberations and operational activities of the United Nations system in the field of public administration, finance and development;

(f) Enhanced understanding of development of the Internet on the role of the state;

(g) Enhanced capacity to assess emerging vulnerabilities in government capacities;

(h) Improved understanding of complex regulatory practices for emerging global standards;

(i) Greater anticipation of governmental and non-governmental entities in the work of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance."

Paragraph 7.39

After subparagraph (c), insert the following subparagraph:

"(d) The number and quality of analytical reports and publications on emerging issues in public administration and finance."

Legislative mandates

Under programme 7, Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/55, replace the words "(subprogrammes 1, 2 and 5)" with the words "(all subprogrammes)".

Under subprogramme 4, add the following General Assembly resolution:

"54/225 Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development"

Under subprogramme 6, delete the following Economic and Social Council resolution:

"1997/61 Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits"

Under subprogramme 8, add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"54/107 Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

54/96 G Economic assistance to Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans

54/54 T Relationship between disarmament and development"

and add the following mandate:

"Economic and Social Council decision

1999/59 Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions".